

Proclamation

Presented

In Recognition of the AbilityOne Program

WHEREAS, the AbilityOne Program, consists of Hawai'i community-based nonprofit organizations including **Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Lanakila Pacific, and Network Enterprises, Inc.** which provide thousands of individuals who are blind or have other significant disabilities with rehabilitation, training and job coaching necessary to receive good wages and benefits, and gain greater independences and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the AbilityOne Program goal is to help those individuals to participate more fully in their communities; market their skills into other public and private sector jobs; and create and sustain job opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the AbilityOne Program raises awareness about people with disabilities having the skills, talents and personal qualities that are often overlooked and are underutilized; and

WHEREAS, the AbilityOne Program works with the public and private sector, to ensure fair treatment in the workplace, and foster employment of persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the AbilityOne Program reminds us that the true success of any state depends on the inclusion of individuals of all abilities who wish to contribute to the prosperity and well-being of their communities; and


WHEREAS, the AbilityOne Program will join other organizations throughout the United States in celebrating October 2011 as Disability Employment Awareness Month, which was established in 1988 to promote the employment of people with disabilities and to address barriers that prevent some individuals from joining the workforce;

THEREFORE I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October, 2011 as

"AbilityOne Month"

in Hawai'i and urge the people of the Aloha State to commend **Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Lanakila Pacific, and Network Enterprises, Inc.** for their dedication to working together to help individuals with disabilities build a better life for themselves and their families in Hawai'i.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-fifth of October, 2011.


NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i


BRIAN SCHATZ
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i